

County of Los Angeles CHIEF ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE

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November 21, 2006

Board of Supervisors GLORIA MOLINA First District

YVONNE B. BURKE Second District

ZEV YAROSLAVSKY Third District

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To:

Mayor Michael D. Antonovich

Supervisor Gloria Molina Supervisor Yvonne B. Burke Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky

Supervisor Don Knabe

From:

David E. Janssen

Chief Administrative Off

WASHINGTON, D.C. UPDATE

Federal Fiscal Year (FFY) 2007 Appropriations

Last week, the Congress reconvened for a lame-duck session to complete unfinished legislative business – most notably, FFY 2007 appropriations bills covering all Federal departments and agencies except for the Departments of Defense and Homeland Security, which were enacted before the November elections. The Senate passed H.R. 5385, the FFY 2007 Military Construction-Veterans Affairs (VA) appropriations bill last week, but did not act on any of the other nine FFY 2007 appropriations bills, which were pending Senate floor action. The House did not take any action on the Labor-Health and Human Services-Education appropriations bill – the only FFY 2007 appropriations bill not yet passed by the House. Last week, the Congress enacted a Continuing Resolution which temporarily funds Federal programs and activities through December 8, 2006. The Congress ended last week by leaving for a two-week Thanksgiving Day recess.

The outlook for completing FFY 2007 appropriations bills is unclear. Given that the Senate has not yet passed eight FFY 2007 appropriations bills and that Congress will not reconvene until December 4, 2006, it will be extremely difficult, if not impossible, to enact all of the nine remaining FFY 2007 appropriations bills before the end of December. Conservative Republicans, however, are opposed to funding all remaining Federal programs and activities through an omnibus appropriations bill. Last week, in the Senate, conservatives blocked the appointment of conferees on the FFY 2007 Military Construction-VA appropriations bill due to a concern that could be used as a vehicle for an omnibus appropriations bill. Unless the 109th Congress can enact

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FFY 2007 appropriations through individual appropriations bills and/or an omnibus appropriations bill before it adjourns, it will have to enact another Continuing Resolution to temporarily extend funding for programs until early next year, leaving it to the new 110th Congress to finish work on FFY 2007 appropriations.

Congressional Leadership Elections

Last week, both houses elected their leadership for the upcoming 110th Congress, which commences on January 4, 2007. The two Californians elected to leadership posts are Nancy Pelosi (Speaker of the House) and Barbara Boxer (Chief Deputy Majority Whip). Senate Democrats also made their committee assignments. Senator Feinstein will chair the Rules and Administration Committee, which has jurisdiction over Federal elections, and also will serve on the Appropriations, Intelligence, and Judiciary Committees. Senator Boxer will chair the Environment and Public Works Committee, which has jurisdiction over environmental, water resources, public works, and highway programs, and also will serve on the Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committees. House committee assignments will not be made until early January.

We will continue to keep you advised.

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